

South Africa and in New Zealand, and reported the excellent effect of these acts, especially that of New Zealand, which is much the best. She gave a strong statement of the whole evolution of conditions from the educational standpoint, and made a special plea for justice to trained nurses as a valuable class of public workers. After reading a general statement which refuted the arguments of the opposition she handed in a synopsis of nearly one hundred cases in which women described as nurses and engaged in nursing had appeared in the courts for criminal offences varying from murder to petty thefts. While these criminals may not actually have been nurses, yet trained nurses have to endure the odium and ignominy of such proceeding. She also handed in a statement prepared by the State Registration Society, representing fifteen hundred matrons and nurses, and a list of eighteen hundred medical practitioners, nurses, matrons, and public persons in favor of registration, with copies of all resolutions passed by public bodies in favor of it. Her entire mass of material was strong, complete, and irrefutable, and meant a tremendous amount of hard work.

Several prominent physicians have also testified in most emphatic and positive terms for registration. Sir James Crichton Browne, Sir Victor Horsley, Dr. Bezly Thorne, and Dr. Langley Browne have given excellent testimony, and, although they have only told the Select Committee exactly the same things that the nurses have told them, the Select Committee heard them with much more respect and deference. So preponderatingly strong has the whole registration evidence been so far, that it seems hardly possible it can be ignored. One feels that it must be accepted. If it is not, the explanation will lie chiefly in the strange indifference to education which keeps England back in lines where the worker needs to be fitted for the work, and in the preponderance of sentimentality over a sense of justice among masculine beings.

However it turns out, the organized nurses of Great Britain and Ireland have made a magnificent campaign of education and have shown courage, energy, and persistence which must excite general admiration. No one will ever know how much hard work it has all meant except those who have gone through similar trials.

L. L. D.

ITEMS

DR. DOUTY, writing to the *Lancet*, thinks that cases of syphilis should be reported to health boards and general measures taken against this disease. He is of the opinion that if syphilis and gonorrhœa could be stamped out, phthisis and infantile tuberculosis, kidney disease, gynaecological disorders, bone, eye, ear, skin, brain, spinal-cord diseases and,

finally, cancer, would be reduced by one-half. He declares it to be absurd that tuberculosis, scarlet fever, chicken-pox, and smallpox should be reported and these two deadly and undermining maladies, through "a pseudo-puritanical spirit which will not allow the innocent to be protected from the guilty," should be ignored and let to go as they please.

France has now formed a national association for the prevention of syphilis, and in Germany a movement among physicians to educate the public is beginning, as a result of the German state insurance laws against invalidity.

THE German Nurses' Association will begin next autumn to publish its own journal. This is a matter for sincere congratulation indeed. The journal will be the property and organ of the association and will be devoted entirely to advancing the educational and ethical standards of nursing, upholding the principle of self-government in professional affairs, strengthening the bond of union between the members, and in every way promoting the dignity, honor, and progress of trained nursing.

MORE than two hundred medical men in Paris have founded an International Medical Association Against War. The president is Dr. Rivière, who, in his discourse, held that medical men, who were so intimately acquainted with human misery, both physical and moral, were by that very fact the most fitted of the community to collaborate in the work of substituting arbitration for war.

THE *Lancet* for March 25 and April 1 gives a detailed account of the medical inspection and the nursing service of the New York public schools, and accords high praise and recognition to the work of the nurses.

A NURSE trained in the Jewish Hospital in Amsterdam, named Sister M. van Gelder, is to go early in the summer to Jerusalem as head sister in the Jewish Hospital of that historic town.

WE desire to correct the statement made last month, that Miss Maule, of *Nursing Notes*, London, appeared in support of the city financiers' project to register English nurses under the Board of Trade. Miss Maule was simply present to hear the proceedings.